

**STANDARDS COORDINATING COMMITTEE
ISSUE SUMMARY SHEET**

Updated: August 1995

Issue: #6-93-01 **Susp Date:** Ongoing

Issue Title: Review Combat Camera Imagery (CCI) format to insure Interoperability with NITF

Date Opened: 17 March 1993

Lead Activity: CFS

Subactivities: N/A

Issue Statement: Request for information on Combat Camera Imagery format compatibility with the proposed National Imagery Transmission Format Standards (NITFS)

Closing Criteria: Report back to the MCEB on whether or not NITFS can be used for format interoperability.

Milestones:

- o Determine compatibility of the CCI with NITFS - done.
 - o Combat Camera Imagery Requirement to be addressed at the NITFS Technical Board 7-9 April 1993 - completed.
 - o MCEB to be updated until determination of applicability with NITFS is resolved
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Current Status: August 1995 - On 27 April 1995, a meeting was held at the Armed Forces Information Service (AFIS) headquarters. The meeting's purpose was to gain access to the CIO United States Imagery System (USIS) through compliance with the National Imagery Transmission Format Standard (NITFS). It was agreed that AFIS would provide to the CIO a Concept Operations (CONOPS) Plan, which would allow the CIO to review the AFIS requirements and operating environment. The CIO agreed to pursue hardware and software options which, if realized, will greatly facilitate AFIS access to USIS, via the current AFIS production environment. Since the April 1995 meeting, AFIS has provided the CONOPS to the CIO for study and CIO has provided a background briefing to AFIS on the Image Product Archive initiative. Another meeting is scheduled for October to review progress in the CIO translation software efforts.

Issue Chronology:

March 1993 - NITFS Technical Board (NTB) has requested input on Combat Camera

Imagery Requirements be addressed at their meeting 7-9 April 1993.

10 May 1993 - The DISA NITFS POC, Ms. Ciepiela, and Mr. Puckett, Chairman of the NITFS Technical Board and representing the Central Imagery Office (CIO), met with Mr. Ashcraft, Deputy, OASD (Public Affairs) to discuss CCI/NITFS interoperability. Both the CIO and OASD (PA) concluded that there are definite areas within the Transmission of Combat Camera Imagery processing that require NITFS compatibility and interoperability. It was also agreed that the situations requiring this compatibility need to be reviewed from OASD (PA) and OASD (C3I) perspectives. Time frames for this conversion process would be addressed based on immediate and long term requirements.

Based on the meeting of 10 May, OASD (PA) and the CIO have requested the Center for Standards established a working group, either through the proposed Imagery Standards Management Committee (ISMC) or a DISA INST LSA Working Group to resolve this issue. In view of the pending 30 June 1993 approval for NITFS, and due to the fact that the ISMC has not been approved, it is recommended that the INST establish these meetings.

The Army's Combat Camera Imagery Program was briefed to the NITFS Technical Board on 9 April 1993 by Major Keunning, USAFIC. At that time, the NTB Chair concluded that CCI (for the Army) requires NITF compliance for certain tactical/intelligence situations. The NTB Army Representative, Major Wiley, later phoned USAFIC (Major Keunning) and offered NTB cooperation in achieving this objective, if required. Specifically, the NITF-complaint software could be provided by the CIO and loaded on the workstations sending and receiving the image. A progress report by the Army NTB rep will be made to the NTB on 8 June 1993.

August 1993 - 15 July 1993 the DISA NITFS POC, Ms. Ciepiela, and Mr. Puckett, Chairman of the NITFS Technical Board, representing the Central Imagery Office (CIO), met with Mr. Ashcraft, Deputy OASD (Public Affairs) and Mr. Latson OASD (PA) to discuss CCI/NITFS interoperability. Discussions centered on systems using primary and secondary imagery dissemination. It was agreed that the CIO will provide a list of NITF-Certified systems and their secondary formats to the OASD (PA) and the CIO would receive a list of primary imagery systems using Combat Camera Imagery formats for comparison. Once these are reviewed, timeless and test criteria for NITFS Certification of hand-held systems, as required, can be developed at the NITFS test laboratory, Ft. Hoecake.

Based on the meeting of 15 July, ongoing meetings will be held through the Center for Standards Information Standards and Technology (INST) standardization area Imagery Working Group until the issue is resolved. The National Imagery Transmission Format Standards (NITFS) were approved on 18 June 1993 and are due to be implemented 1 October 1993 (FY 94). Implementation guidelines, to include usage by hand-held imagery applications, are currently being developed by the CIO with coordination through the INST.

A follow up meeting will be held on 1 September 1993, between OASD (PA), and the CIO and the INST to review primary/secondary systems and to review implementation guidelines.

November 1993 - This is an ongoing project that is under the management of the NITF Technical Board (NTB). The initial meeting scheduled for 1 September 1993 was postponed due to scheduling conflicts with the key players. Both communities have agreed that interoperability is a must and that the management should eventually fall under the Imagery Standards Management Committee (ISMC). Comparative analysis to determine which systems use both the NITF format and the Combat Imagery format has begun.

February 1994 - This project is now under the management of the Imagery Standards Management Committee (ISMC), chaired by the Central Imagery Office (CIO).

The CIO and CFS met with members of the Defense Audio-Visual Policy Office (DAP) on 12 January 1994 to discuss; the mutual implication between Combat Camera and CIO initiatives, Combat Cameras digital architecture standards, and the NITF Mil-STD's. Mr. Puckett, the CIO POC indicated that the CIO was attempting to put together a concept of operations that involves both translations from existing image storage systems into NITFS and the creation of a prototype Image Product Archives (IPA) and would like to include Combat Camera application(s) within this initiative. The funding implications of such an effort will be discussed at the next combat camera meeting in late March, specifically, whether the DAP or CIO will fund this project.

Additionally, the DAP application which would be prototyped would require access to the DISN classified and unclassified 56kbps level. Additionally, the CFS (TBC) will continue to coordinate with both the CIO and DAP to address any changes necessary to the NITF MIL-STDS with regard to this issue.

May 1994 - This project is now under the management of the Imagery Standards Management Committee (ISMC), chaired by the Central Imagery Office. The CIO and CFS (TBCE) met with members of the Defense Audio-Visual Policy Office (DAP) on 15 March 1994 as a follow-up to the 12 January 1994 meeting. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss imagery requirements for both the intelligence community and the needs of the war fighters and the operators as well. Specific discussions revolved around the issues of both software and hardware incompatibilities, i.e., MAC (DAP) vs UNIX (CIO) environments and the costs to achieve compatibilities between visual imagery archiving systems and the CIO's overall Imagery Architectural Model. Development of a strategic plan for predominantly MAC-based systems is due this summer from the DAP. The CIO and the CFS will coordinate on this plan. Data storage within the CIO's Imagery Database and the specific formats for the DAP's input are subjects for future discussions. This may require a formal change to MIL-STD 2500 if the NITFS Format is to be used as a CIO database requirement. A follow-up meeting is scheduled for the June time frame.

August 1994 - On 29 July, the CFS BITFS POC met with Central Imagery Office (CIO) personnel regarding the status of NITFS interoperability with respect to hand-held cameras. The CIO in conjunction with the J3 is developing a prototype camera within their R & D Division to provide NITFS capabilities for hand-held operations.

A meeting will be held in late August between the Defense Audio-Visual Policy Office (DAP), the CIO and CFS representatives to brief this latest technology as well as continue discussions on visual imaging archiving systems between DAP and CIO efforts.

Follow up to this August meeting will be presented to the Imagery Standards Management Committee (ISMC) at their regularly scheduled meeting in October.

November 1994 - Ongoing discussions occurred at the BITFS Technical Board on 20 October 1994, to install TACO 2, the NITFS Tactical Communications Protocol on the OASD (PA)'s Macintosh Hardware. NITFS Version 2 will also be installed at that time. The funding of this application and the time frame for doing this by the CIO will be addressed at the next ISMC on 22 November 1994.

February 1995 - Since October 1994, members of the Defense Audio Visual Policy Office (DAVPO) have met with the Central Imagery Office (CIO) Research and Development (R&D) Division to discuss the continuing development of the CIO's prototype camera, which will provide NITFS capabilities for hand-held operations. A demo of this prototype is to be given by the CIO to the Defense Airborne Reconnaissance Office (DARO) in the month of February, date TBD, at which time the DAVPO and Center for Standards (CFS) have been invited to attend. Additionally, the status of this prototype, its use by DAVPO and any proposed changes to the NITF Standard will be addressed by the CIO at the next Imagery Standards Management Committee (ISMC), on 1 March 1995. The ISMC will be held at the CIO Headquarters.

August 1995 - on 27 April 1995, a meeting was held at the Armed Forces Information Service (AFIS) headquarters. The purpose of this meeting was to gain access to the CIO United States Imagery System (USIS) through compliance with the National Imagery Transmission Format Standard (NTIFS). It was agreed that AFIS would provide to the CIO a Concept of Operations (CONOPS) Plan, which would allow the CIO to review the AFIS requirements and operating environment. The CIO agreed to pursue hardware and software options which, if realized, will greatly facilitate AFIS access to USIS, via the current AFIS production environment. These hardware and software options could provide reference/translation/transfer software that would convert present AFIS products, including digitized combat camera imagery into National Imagery Transmission Format (NITF) - compliant products, when required. Representatives from the AFIS, the CIO and DISA (CFS) were in attendance.

Since the April 1995 meeting, AFIS has provided the CONOPS to the CIO for study and CIO has provided a background briefing to AFIS on the Image Product Archive initiative. Another meeting is scheduled for October to review progress in the CIO translation software efforts.

December 1995 - The CIO Standards Branch has agreed to port the NITFS reference software currently available for PCS to a MAC environment to provide the Combat Camera community the capability of processing NITF files at the user level. The acquisition process started in FY95 and the contract tasks will be initiated shortly after the FY96 budget becomes available.

STANDARDS COORDINATING COMMITTEE ISSUE SUMMARY SHEET

Updated: November 1995

Issue: # 3-95-01 Susp Date: Ongoing
Issue Title: CFS/CMC WG Meeting
Date Opened: 30 August 1995
Lead Activity: CFS
Subactivities: N/A

Issue Statement: CFS will call a meeting with representatives from the DMC WG and SCC. SCC members should be ready to identify people to discuss issues surrounding naming convention standards at a meeting tentatively scheduled for September 1995.

Closing Criteria: D3, Etoi Moore, and JEBEC, Nanci Hannon, will back brief the SCC shortly after the next DMC Director's meeting scheduled for January 1995.

Milestones:

- o August 1995 brief to SCC (completed)
 - o Brief SCC after January 1995 DMC Director's meeting.
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Current Status:

Suggestions for changes to the MVS portion of the DISA Naming Standards documents should be forwarded to Don McClintok mcclintd@dmc.ri.disa.mil.

Jon Rick will ask the DMCs for suggestions for additional 3rd party names.

Dayton & Mech will continue to finalize the DMC (ESA) Implementation Guide. When ver 1.0 is final I will send to the SMC Directors via Col Jones for signature/agreement. Hopefully

we can get close to ver 1.0 before the exec software meeting January 23-25.

Tim Drazba will look into the impact of OS/390 on our central receipt and distribution plan.

The web site for Open Edition MVS is:

<http://www.s390.ibm.com:80/products/oe/bpxalwhp.html>

Center for Standards will “publish” the standards documents on the Web.

Issue Chronology:

Background: JEBC has been working with the DMC's to get their Multiple Virtual Storage/Job Control Language (MVS/JCL) Naming documents through the standardization process. Dr. Davies sponsored Ms. Etoi Moore's August 95 presentation to the Standards Coordinating Committee. In parallel, JEBC has been working with WESTHEM and CFSW to tighten the specific MVS/XA to MVS/ESA migration guidance.

November 1995 - JEBC facilitated a teleconference on November 28, 1995. A number of action items/issues came out of this teleconference.

The meeting on December 12th was canceled. ESA names will not be included in the DISA Naming Standards document. The Naming Standards will reference the DMC SOP for the naming conventions for ESA and 3rd party software. Tom Simpson has agreed to include the DMC Implementation Guide in the SOP. The SOP will be maintained in Denver so updates will be easy.

**STANDARDS COORDINATING COMMITTEE
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Updated: August 1995

Issue: # 2-95-04 **Susp Date:**
Issue Title: New Standards Process Approach
Date Opened: May 1995
Lead Activity: CFS
Subactivities:

Issue Statement: The Standards Process Improvement Working Group deals with the problems identified initially by the U.S. Marine Corps in working with the development of Information Technology standards and problems associated with timelessness and support of such efforts.

Closing Criteria: Presentation and approval of a Standards Process Improvement Working Group white paper documenting findings and recommendations to the current process.

Milestones:

o 6 October 1995: White paper staffed with Working Group members.

Current Status:

May 1995 - Mr. Berrios, JEBD, raised the issue at the 9 May 1995 SCC. His briefing focused on those areas in which the SCC and its subordinate bodies have direct influence: requirement analysis, standards development and testing, and configuration management and maintenance.

Issue Chronology:

February 1995 - Issue raised before the SCC. SCC provides additional guidance to the working group.

May 1995 - Mr. Wilbert Berrios, Chief of the DoD Standards Assistance Department, provided an update on the status of the Standards Process Improvement Working Group efforts to deal with the problems identified initially by the U.S. Marine Corps in working with the development of Information Technology Standards and the problems associated with timelessness and support of such efforts. Mr Berrios discussed the additional guidance the SCC provided to the working group at the February meeting and outlined those actions the working group recommended as possible improvements. Mr Berrios focused on those areas in which the SCC and its subordinate bodies have direct influence: requirement analysis, standards development and testing, configuration management and maintenance. He stated that the basic process is sound, and that only minor adjustments were necessary. Mr. Dave Gaon of the CFS, Mr. Bert Newlin of the OASD (C3I), Dr. Kaplan all raised the issue that the process may be flawed and that another paradigm, such as that used by the Internet Engineering Task Force (IETF) (adopting the standard after two successful prototypes have been demonstrated), might be more appropriate to meet DoDs needs. Another alternative discussed by Dr. Kaplan was requiring that the standard be tested as part of the system compliance testing. The service that first requires the standard should pay to test the standard as a part of development. Dr. Kaplan recommended that the group get back together to investigate these alternatives and come forth with some additional recommendations. On the basis of the discussion, COL Williams directed Mr. Berrios to reconvene the working group to address these issues and present a briefing at the next SCC meeting.

June 1995 - COL Williams approved the concept of drafting a white paper documenting the findings and recommendation of the previous working group (WG) meetings as alternative approach to immediately reconvening the working group. The white paper would be staffed with the working group members for their review and comments and presented in the August SCC.

August 1995 - COL Williams approved delaying the white paper briefing to the SCC scheduled for 1st Quarter FY 96, due to planning and preparation of the Center for Standards symposium.